



The Royal Society OF VICTORIA

Promoting science since 1854

PATRON: The Hon Linda Dessau AC
Governor of Victoria

PRESIDENT: Mr David Zerman

This Month's Events...



9th November: Tanya Ha
"The Spock and Kirk of Science Communication"



23rd November: Very Young Scientists
Celebrating RSV Bursary Winners of the 2017 Science Talent Search Competition

November 2017 Newsletter

December Advance Notice:

Print Post Approved 100009741



14th December: Trevor Lithgow
"The Bacteria Inside Us: Compadres, Passengers & Pests"

The Royal Society of Victoria Inc.
8 La Trobe Street,
Melbourne Victoria 3000
Tel. (03) 9663 5259
rsv.org.au



Upcoming Meetings & Events

The Spock and Kirk of Science Communication

Thursday, 9th November 2017 at 7:00pm



Speaker: **Tanya Ha**
Director of Engagement, Science in Public
Associate, Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute,
The University of Melbourne

Why does Australia know more about nutrition and exercise science than ever before, but our obesity rates are climbing? Why do people take cancer advice from wellness bloggers? Why don't information campaigns work?

Tanya Ha delves into the human mind, social research, physiology and Star Trek to explore how people process information and act upon what they see, hear and read. She shows why the 'information deficit model of behaviour change' and simplistic awareness campaigns don't work.

This event will pull apart examples of science communication aimed at changing behaviour, finding what worked, what didn't, and what had unintended consequences, covering topics such as vaccination and climate change.

Tanya will outline the importance of making science accessible, telling stories, appealing to emotions while respecting facts—in short, finding the best balance of head and heart in science communication.

About the Speaker:



Tanya's work focuses on linking science with broader society. She is currently Director of Engagement at Science in Public and an Associate of the Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute. She manages publicity for National Science Week, communication for the National Stem Cell Foundation of Australia, and media programs for scientific conferences.

Tanya has extensive print, radio and TV media experience, including reporting for ABC's *Catalyst*, and presenting SBS's *Eco House Challenge*. She won a UN environmental reporting award for her work on the climate change documentary/lifestyle show *Warm TV*. She is a highly-regarded speaker, and has hosted major public events at the World Science Festival Brisbane, Victoria's Parliament House and Adelaide's World Environment Fair.

Tanya is on the advisory groups of the ARC Centre of Excellence in Exciton Science, the Thrive Research Hub, and the Science Gallery Melbourne. She has also served on the boards of Sustainability Victoria and Keep Australia Beautiful.

Tanya was one of the thousand 'best and brightest' selected as delegates for the Australia 2020 Summit. She has also taught and tutored human behaviour and environment (environmental psychology) at the University of Melbourne.

Tanya's books include *Greeniology* and *Green Stuff for Kids*. She is a passionate advocate for sustainability, scientific literacy and gender equity.



A free event, places limited, bookings essential! Register online now at <https://rsv.org.au/events/spock-kirk-science-communication/>, call or email the RSV office to secure your place: 9663 5259, rsv@rsv.org.au.

INNOVATION WEEK 2017

CELEBRATING STEM RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Innovation Week is an annual celebration of innovation in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine (STEMM) in Australia led by the Australian Science and Innovation Forum (**ASIF**) in partnership with the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (**ATSE**). Now in its third year, the Royal Society of Victoria has been a proud Silver Partner since the inaugural event.

The goal of the week is to foster an innovation culture that values basic research, features the translation of discoveries, celebrates successful teams as well as emerging entrepreneurs and start-ups.

Launch Event: The Future of Healthcare is Digital

A BioMelbourne Network BioBreakfast

Monday, 13th November 2017 from 7:30 to 9:00am.

Join us for the official launch of Innovation Week 2017 – A celebration of STEMM innovation and entrepreneurship!



Digital health is one of the most exciting and fast growing areas of innovation, with huge potential to improve the care and well-being of Australians. At the launch of Innovation Week 2017, hear from **ANDHealth** CEO Bronwyn Le Grice and two emerging growth stage companies who are bringing new digital technologies to market that will drive the future of healthcare.

2017 Innovation Week Launch Address:



Dr Charlie Day, CEO of the Office of Innovation and Science Australia

Dr Charlie Day was most recently the Project Director, The Carlton Connect Initiative at The University of Melbourne. Prior to this he was the leader of Melbourne Ventures, the technology commercialisation company of the University of Melbourne, from its foundation in 2004 until 2010. He also has a longstanding interest in the creation of new technology-based ventures, having previously been a member of the Investment Committee of the Venture Capital fund Uniseed, and more recently a co-founder of the Melbourne Accelerator Program.

Earlier in his career, Charlie was a consultant with the Boston Consulting Group, and before that a consultant with Hagen & Co, an innovative start-up consulting company focused on manufacturing process improvement.

Charlie currently serves on the board of the Murdoch Children's' Research Institute and is a member of their Translation and Commercialisation Committee.

Charlie has a degree in Classics and an honours degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Melbourne, along with a doctorate in jet engine design from Oxford University, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar. He has also trained in Corporate Finance at INSEAD, and is a graduate of the Company Directors' Course run by the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Keynote Speaker:



Ms Bronwyn Le Grice, Managing Director/Co-Founder, ANDHealth

Bronwyn has 15 years executive experience in the life sciences sector spanning corporate and business development, transaction management, investor relations and industry advocacy.

The former CEO of NZBIO, New Zealand's national life sciences industry body, Bronwyn joined leading Australian Healthcare Venture Capital firm BioScience Managers in 2012 as Investment Director, where she was responsible for strategic positioning, marketing and external relations in addition to participating in deal origination, due diligence and negotiation for two funds totalling A\$96m under management.

Since 2014 she has project managed a number of significant transactions in the health technology & digital health sectors resulting in over A\$65m of private and public equity raisings, including IPO's on the Australia Stock Exchange and the UK Alternative Investments Market.

She is currently Managing Director of ANDHealth, Australia's National Digital Health Initiative and a Special Advisor to BioScience Managers, one of Australia's leading healthcare venture capital firms.

Company Presentations:



Dr Dean Freestone, Co-Founder & Managing Director, Seer Medical

Dr Freestone is the managing director of Seer Medical, a digital health company that specialises in epilepsy diagnostics. He is also the deputy director of the ARC Training Centre in Cognitive Computing for Medical Technologies at the University of Melbourne. Dr Freestone received his PhD from the University of Melbourne in 2012, where he won the Chancellor's Prize for PhD Excellence. Dr Freestone was the recipient of the 2014 Victorian Fulbright Post-Doctoral Fellowship, where he focused on developing new tools for machine learning for healthcare at Columbia University in New York City.

From medical device development to machine learning algorithms, Dean Freestone has pushed the frontiers of med-tech over the last decade. His work has received numerous academic accolades. In 2016 his research made headlines, with a study showing how algorithms can be used to transform neurology and epilepsy management. Dean's problem solving skills derive from his early background as an electronics tradesman and instrument fitter. At Seer, Dean provides practical intuition into complex algorithms and a knack for finding innovative solutions to problems in neurology.

Technology is changing health care, with vast potential for future improvements. Seer was started because the neurological clinical practice could not keep pace with rapid technological advances. We saw the need for a new provider that would combine medical expertise with the latest technology. Our focus was to deliver a service that meets clinical needs and maximises patient care.

Seer Medical have created a wearable device and cloud computing technology which delivers hospital standard epilepsy monitoring and diagnosis in the home.



Sanji Kanagalingam, Director @ Curve Tomorrow

Founded in 2009, Curve Tomorrow is a technology company that is passionate about changing the direction of health. Having started in Melbourne, they have since expanded to Silicon Valley, California and more recently to Perth, India, Sri Lanka and France. Curve Tomorrow are embedded within a world leading hospital working side by side with health professionals, researchers and patients.

Sanji is responsible for general management, strategy and business development at Curve. He has over 15 years' experience in design, engineering and business creation of safety-critical products and health technology, with experience in the rail, automotive and health sectors in Europe, Asia and North America. Sanji is passionate about using technology to make a positive change in our society and working with health professionals to improve healthcare.

Curve Tomorrow are responsible for PenPal – A digital allergy tool which empowers temporary carers of children with allergies through on the spot access to life saving personalised information and treatment steps.



**BioMelbourne
Network**
Progressing BioIndustry

Cost: \$55, places limited, bookings essential! All proceeds go to support Innovation Week. Register online now at
<http://biomelbourne.org/event/biobreakfast-innovation-week-launch/>.

INNOVATION WEEK 2017

CELEBRATING STEM RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

STEM Careers in Industry: Postdoc Destinations

An Exclusive Event for RSV PhD Student Members and IMNIS Program Mentees

Thursday, 16th November 2017 at 5:00pm.



IMNIS

INDUSTRY MENTORING
NETWORK IN STEM

An **Innovation Week 2017** event presented at the Royal Society of Victoria in partnership with ATSE's [Industry Mentoring Network in STEM](#) (IMNIS) program.

IMNIS Mentees and **RSV PhD Student Members** are invited to attend this special night to hear from scientists who have taken the leap into industrial, government and other non-academic settings, making use of their STEM skills and experience to lead and excel in a range of rewarding, specialised roles.

An expert panel will discuss a range of careers beyond academia and include key advice on transferable skills, the 'soft' skills, the value of a professional network, potential jobs of the future and their top tips for career success. Leave your comfort zone and think big about future careers in STEM!

There will also be an opportunity to network over food and drink with industry mentors from the IMNIS program to gain some solid insight and advice on your options for future careers that make meaningful use of the skills you've honed as an early career STEM researcher.

Hosts:

[Dr Marguerite Evans-Galea](#), IMNIS Executive Director, Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering

[Mike Flattley](#), Chief Executive Officer, The Royal Society of Victoria

Facilitator:

[Dr Richard Huysmans](#)



Dr Richard Huysmans is driven by the challenge of building outstanding careers beyond the PhD. He knows what it takes to transition out of academia, into entrepreneurship, having done so himself. He has also helped with 100s of researchers, so is equally adept at building grant success, growing collaboration, engaging industry and obtaining funding. His strategic approach brings the research and business sectors together to ensure careers have impact. He works with researchers and entrepreneurs in roles such as Research Manager, Centre and Institute Director, Deputy and Pro Vice-Chancellor of Research and Faculty Manager. Recent projects have included building research teams, translating research into practice, engaging industry and establishing and reviewing research centres.

Panellists:

Dr Michael Wilson



With a BSc from Monash University and a PhD in immunology from the University of Melbourne, Michael Wilson now heads up the Molecular Biology division at **CSL Ltd.** Formerly at GSK, he is an experienced pharmaceutical professional who has successfully developed and led drug development project teams for a range of clinical indications including inflammatory conditions, airway disease and oncology. He has a strong interest in the drivers of the constantly evolving pharmaceutical sector.

Dr Jennifer Henry



After a childhood spent fossicking in gardens and creeks, and being dragged on bushwalks by her intrepid parents, Jennifer Henry studied agricultural science at the University of Melbourne. After several years with the Victorian Department of Agriculture and with a private agricultural media company, she returned to graduate school at the University of Melbourne, earning her PhD in the genetic engineering of transgenic crops. She then spent nine years as Editor in the scientific journals division at CSIRO Publishing, then two years as a Publishing Manager at Nature Publishing Group in New York. This was followed by five years at the New York Academy of Sciences, where she was responsible for organising over 40 scientific

conferences per year across the life sciences, spanning structural biology, genome integrity, biochemical pharmacology and neuroscience.

Wanting her two daughters to have an Australian education and upbringing, Jennifer and her husband returned home to Melbourne at the end of 2014, and joined the Advancement team at the **University of Melbourne**, which focuses on engaging alumni and raising philanthropic support for research and scholarships. In her current role as the University's Bequests Manager, she builds relationships with alumni and friends of the University who have chosen to leave a gift to the University in their Will, and liaises with colleagues across the University to roll out research grants and scholarships from realised estates. Outside of work, Jennifer enjoys running, wine appreciation, wood chopping and kid-wrangling.

Dr Catherine de Burgh-Day



Catherine did her BSc, Masters and PhD all at the University of Melbourne. She went into her BSc with the intention of majoring in meteorology, but very quickly got distracted by the wonders of astrophysics. She went on to complete a Masters and then a PhD in astrophysics studying weak gravitational lensing. Things have come full circle and she now works at the **Bureau of Meteorology**, where she has been a software developer on the Bureau's super computer systems, and is currently in the research department developing applications for seasonal forecasting of sea surface temperatures around New Zealand for aquaculture industries. Catherine likes to keep her eggs in many baskets, and firmly believes in always keeping your options open – after all, who knows what the universe might throw your way?

Dr Krystal Evans



Dr Krystal Evans was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the **BioMelbourne Network** in July 2014 and has over 15 years' experience in the biomedical research sector. Krystal's skills in government affairs, stakeholder relations and business development underpin her commitment to advancing Victoria's unique position as a global destination for life sciences and health technology. Krystal is a leading advocate for science and technology, and was a founding member and Chair of the Australian Academy of Science's Early and Mid-Career Researcher Forum. A champion of the 2011 "Discoveries Need Dollars" campaign, she led the Melbourne "Rally for Research" to protect funding for medical research in Australia.

Krystal is an articulate and popular spokesperson, and is a regular presenter on Melbourne community radio station 3RRRFM's science show "Einstein A-Go-Go". Krystal has an undergraduate degree in medicinal chemistry and holds a PhD in medical biology. Formerly, Krystal led a malaria vaccine development program at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute, which attracted funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the NHMRC and Commercialisation Australia. In this role she was responsible for positioning lead malaria vaccine candidates for progression into early-phase clinical trials.



A free event, places limited, bookings essential! Register online now at <https://rsv.org.au/events/postdoc-destinations/> , call or email the RSV office to secure your place: 9663 5259, rsv@rsv.org.au

Strictly RSV PhD Student Members and IMNIS program participants only please.



Fresh Science is a national competition helping early-career researchers find, and then share, their stories of discovery.

The program takes up-and-coming researchers with no media experience and turns them into spokespeople for science, giving them a taste of life in the limelight, with a day of media training and a public event in their home state.

Schools Event

29th November from 9:45am and 11:30am @ the Royal Society of Victoria

Hear top young scientists talk about their latest discoveries!

On November 29, teachers and students can hear Victoria's top young scientists talking about their research in a forum designed to light a fire for science in young audiences. Hear Victoria's hottest new talent describe their scientific discoveries at a free, one-hour forum.

In past years, students have heard about brain training to reduce tendon injuries, carbon-munching nanomaterials and microscopic fluorescent torchlights hunting heart disease in the bloodstream.

The talks will be aimed at year-9 and year-10 students, but students from upper primary to year-12 are welcome.

Fresh Science is a national competition that selects passionate, talented young scientists to present their work to media and public.

Each scientist will talk for five minutes, and take questions from the audience.



A free event, places limited, bookings essential! Register online now at <https://rsv.org.au/events/fresh-science-2017/>, call or email the RSV office to secure your place: 9663 5259, rsv@rsv.org.au Strictly Victorian students and teachers only please.

Fresh Science at the Pub

29th November from 6:00pm @ the Belgian Beer Café

Drinks, food, fireworks and science. Come and watch as our fresh, young scientists present their work at a pub event with a difference.

The ten young scientists will describe their scientific discoveries in the time it takes a party sparkler to burn out.

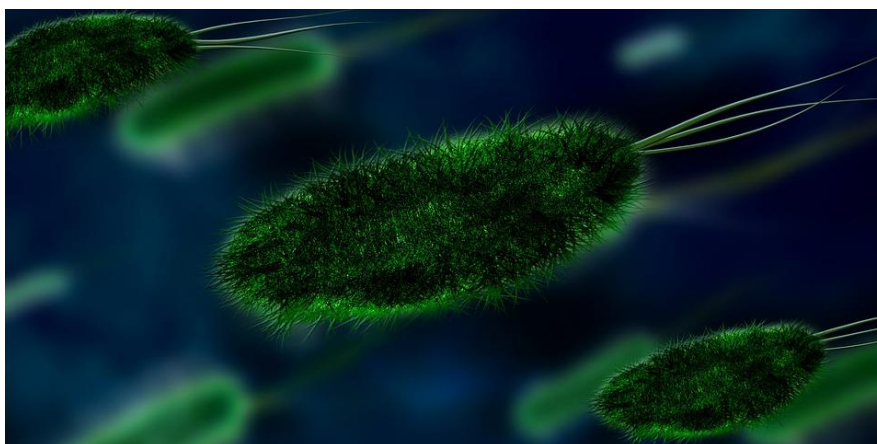
Over one hundred early-career scientists around Australia nominated for Fresh Science 2017. You'll be meeting the ten selected for Fresh Science Victoria. They'll tell us about their discoveries and you'll have the chance to ask them more. Join us as Victoria's freshest young scientists strut their stuff in the fun environment of the Belgian Beer Café!



All welcome, a free event, places limited, bookings essential! Register online now at <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/fresh-science-in-the-pub-victoria-2017-tickets-38066536034> . Meals and drinks available at pub prices.

Fresh Science, now in its 20th year, is sponsored in Victoria by the Royal Society of Victoria, the University of Melbourne, Monash University, Deakin University, La Trobe University, RMIT University and CSIRO.

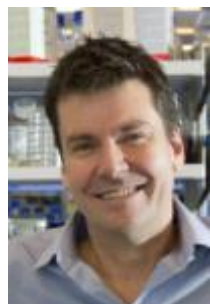
The Bacteria Inside Us:
Evolutionary Compadres, Commensal Passengers & Occasional Pests
The 2017 Medal for Excellence in Scientific Research Lecture & Presentation
Thursday, 14th December 2017 at 6:30pm



Speaker: Professor Trevor Lithgow
ARC Laureate Fellow
Biomedicine Discovery Institute, Monash University

Humans are awash with bacteria. In addition to the commensal passengers we carry on our skins and in our guts as our “microbiome”, and the occasional pathogen that causes disease, our cells are powered by mitochondria, which were themselves once bacteria. All eukaryotes: animals, plants, fungi and a range of other organisms, have mitochondria within their cells for the same life-sustaining purposes. This oration will present aspects of bacterial cell biology that explain the means by which this evolutionary triumph was achieved. In addition, by using new technologies for imaging bacterial cells at nanoscale, we are piecing together the means by which bacteria communicate with each other and their human (and other) hosts in an attempt to maintain harmony, and yet maximize good outcomes for all involved. While once dismissed simply as “germs” and too small to be understood, advances in several technologies are revealing the complex cell biology at play in the bacteria that are on us, in us and part of us.

About the speaker:



Professor Trevor Lithgow is the 2017 winner of the **Royal Society of Victoria's [Medal for Excellence in Scientific Research](#)**, the Society's highest and most prestigious award.

Trevor is an ARC Laureate Fellow in the Biomedicine Discovery Institute at Monash University. Current work in the Lithgow lab, using *Escherichia coli* as a model system, is focused on understanding how bacterial cells build their surface structures. He is the author of more than 150 research articles, including papers in *Nature* and *Science*.

Professor Lithgow received his PhD from La Trobe University in 1992. As a postdoctoral fellow with Gottfried Schatz at the University of Basel, he helped discover components of the protein translocase in the outer mitochondrial membrane (TOM complex) and characterize the function of receptor domains in discriminating and driving protein transport into mitochondria. He lectured in Biochemistry at La Trobe University for four years and lectured in Molecular Biology at the University of Melbourne for ten years. He moved to Monash University in 2008 as an ARC Federation Fellow to establish a Bacterial cell biology lab, an inter-departmental research program in Host-Pathogen Molecular Biology and an international NHMRC Program in Cellular Microbiology. In recognition of his scientific accomplishments, he was elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of Sciences in 2010.

President's Soirée

We are delighted to invite RSV members and their guests to attend the **2017 President's Soirée**, to be hosted by **Mr David Zerman** in the Burke and Wills Room, following the lecture and presentation of the Medal to Professor Lithgow by **Dr Amanda Caples, Victoria's Lead Scientist**.

Please join us for a convivial evening of celebration for science in Victoria and reflection on the work of our Society. Tickets are inclusive of a three course, seated, plated meal with beverages.



Places limited, bookings essential! Limited, discounted Soirée places are available for our student members. Register online now at <https://rsv.org.au/events/bacteria-within-us/> , call or email the RSV office to secure your place: 9663 5259, rsv@rsv.org.au

Nominations for RSV Membership

Nominations for membership of the Society have been received on behalf of:

Dr Thomas **OXLEY**, Vascular Neurologist, CEO
Mr Tyler James **WRAITH-TENSON**, Secondary Student, Waiter

Mr Kosma Wlodzimierz **KRAWCZYK**, Secondary Student

Mr Fergus **MCLAREN**, Undergraduate Student, "Let's Torque" Competition Winner

Ms Ranee **LI**, Undergraduate Student, "Let's Torque" Competition Runner Up

Mr Paul **HOLPER**, Science Communicator, Director

Dr Simon **TOROK**, Science Communicator, Director

Mrs Megan Danae **CARVE**, PhD Student, SCUBA Instructor

Unless Members request a ballot, these will be considered for election by Council and if elected, will be announced at the Ordinary Meeting of the Royal Society of Victoria to be held on 14th December.

Recently elected members who have not yet signed the Society's membership book are invited to attend the 9th November meeting to be formally welcomed as members. **Please inform the office if you plan to attend, so we can prepare your membership certificate for collection.**

From the President

From Global to National to Victoria... And the winners are...

I enjoy the science world in October as many local and international significant prizes are awarded.

Have you ever watched the announcement of the various **Nobel Prizes**? If you missed them you can find them at www.nobelprize.org. One of my favourite parts of that website is a series of very short interviews called "on being awarded the Nobel Prize" where various Laureates tell where they were when informed of their award. Australian Nobel Prize Winner Professor Elizabeth Blackburn tells about concerns for her neighbours when media started arriving at 2am in her quiet street. And you can also see the ceremonies when the awards and associated seminars are held next month.

The **Prime Minister's Prizes for Science** were announced and presented in October. Congratulations to La Trobe University's

Professor Jenny Graves (MRSV) and the other winners announced on the night. You can watch the proceedings of the award ceremony at www.science.gov.au.

Rather than watch it on the web, I'd like to invite you to personally attend the **RSV Medal for Excellence in Scientific Research** which will be presented to Monash University's Professor Trevor Lithgow on **Thursday 14th December** to be followed by a special dinner honouring the award winner.

Function and Booking details are available online at <https://rsv.org.au/events/bacteria-within-us/>

This newsletter contains further information about other RSV functions which I hope to meet you at soon. If, in the meantime, you wish to discuss any RSV issue with me please email me at president@rsv.org.au or call me on 0418 346 999.

2017 Prime Minister's Prize for Science

Professor Jenny Graves AO MRSV



Please join us in offering warmest congratulations to longstanding RSV member **Professor Jenny Graves AO**, recipient of the 2017 Prime Minister's Prize for Science for her work transforming our understanding of how vertebrate animals, including humans, evolved and function.

Over the span of her career she has kick-started genomic and epigenetic research in Australia, and predicted the disappearance of the male chromosome.

Jenny's research has used Australia's marsupials, monotremes, birds and lizards to understand the complexity of the human genome and to reveal new human genes. Australia's pouched and egg-laying mammals, such as wallabies and platypus, are a fantastic source of genetic variation because they last shared a

common ancestor with placental mammals so long ago.



Jenny has transformed our understanding of how sex chromosomes work and how they evolved, determining that the human XY sex chromosome system only evolved recently. Members and friends of the RSV may recall her charmingly engaging 2015 lecture titled '**Weird Sex and Animals**,' where she explored the origin of the Y chromosome and sex determining gene in mammals, with her research suggesting that as we evolve the Y chromosome may completely disappear in the future. She also demonstrated the genetic mechanism that switched could switch of an X chromosome in mammals, now known to be a key mechanism is general gene regulation.

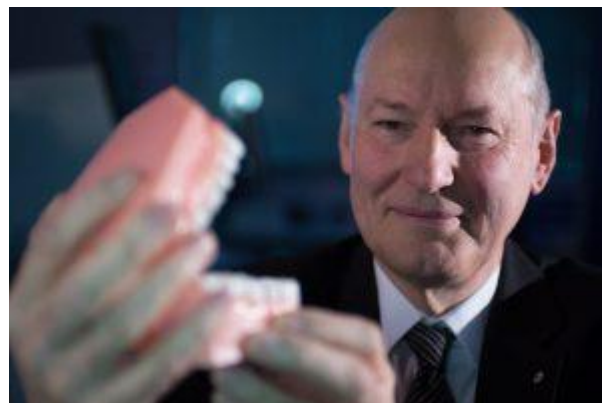
The Prize is a wonderful acknowledgement of a remarkable, accomplished Australian scientist and we take this opportunity to express our great pride in her accomplishments.

2017 Prime Minister's Prize for Innovation

Congratulations are also due to another outstanding Victorian scientist, **Professor Eric Reynolds AO**, who discovered, developed and commercialised a protein from dairy milk that repairs and strengthens our teeth – a journey that began 30 years ago!

Today, that protein, sold as **Recaldent**, is used by millions of people every day as they chew gum

and visit the dentist. Products using Recaldent have generated sales of over \$2 billion and it has been estimated they've saved over \$12 billion in dental treatment costs worldwide.



Professor Eric Reynolds AO

Eric now leads the University of Melbourne's Dental School and travels the world, working with Australian and international businesses to create new products to further improve oral health. He continues to research and innovate for improvement to the oral health of millions across the globe. We are delighted to see such an appropriate acknowledgement of Professor Reynolds' accomplishments with the 2017 Prime Minister's Prize for Innovation.

STEMM Entrepreneur wins 2017 Victorian Telstra Business Woman of the Year

Michelle Gallaher



It's not often we see an accomplished science communicator taking out one of the State's most

prestigious business awards! Melbourne-based Michelle Gallaher from **The Social Science** has been named the 2017 Telstra Victorian Business Woman of the Year, after also receiving the Entrepreneur Award.

Having spent 25 years in biopharmaceutical and medical research, Ms Gallaher founded [The Social Science](#), a marketing and communications consultancy specialising in digital content creation for clients within the Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM) innovation industries.

Her second start-up, **Women in STEMM Australia** ([WiSA](#)), looks to reduce barriers to entry for women looking to enter the industries and, ultimately, close the gender pay gap.

The two businesses are powered by Ms Gallaher's belief that Australia cannot reach its full 'innovation potential' if a significant proportion of STEMM-qualified females opt out mid-career or fail to enter the workforce at all.

"Social and professional networks are enormously powerful in accelerating careers and building innovation ecosystems," she said. "Women know this, yet many of us hold back from investing and leveraging networks in the same way that men do."

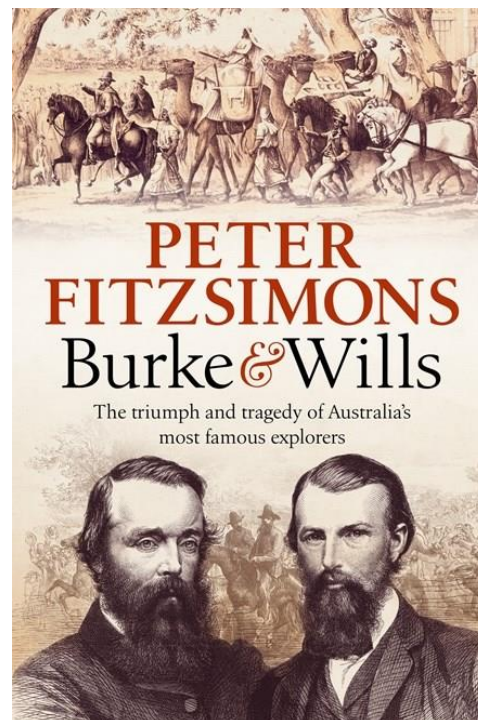
Congratulations to Michelle, one half of the formidable WiSA team with Dr Marguerite Evans-Galea and a valued partner of the Society. The RSV looks forward to providing further support for this commendable initiative in the years ahead.

Burke & Wills

The iconic Australian exploration story, brought to life by Peter Fitzsimmons

"In an ambitious quest to be the first Europeans to cross the harsh Australian continent, the Victorian Exploring Expedition sets off, farewelled by 15,000 cheering well-wishers. Led by Robert O'Hara Burke, a brave man totally lacking in the bush skills necessary for his task; surveyor and meteorologist William Wills; and 17 others, the expedition took 20 tons of equipment carried on six wagons, 23 horse and 26 camels."

"Almost immediately plagued by disputes and sackings, the expeditioners battled the extremes of the Australian landscape and weather: its deserts, the boggy mangrove swamps of the Gulf, the searing heat and flooding rains. Food ran short and, unable to live off the land, the men nevertheless mostly spurned the offers of help from the local Indigenous people."



Melbourne, 20 August, 1860

"In desperation, leaving the rest of the party at the expedition's depot on Coopers Creek, Burke, Wills and John King made a dash for the Gulf in December 1860. Bad luck and bad management would see them miss by just hours a rendezvous back at Coopers Creek, leaving them stranded in the wilderness with practically no supplies. Only King survived to tell the tale."

"Yet, despite their tragic fates, the names of Burke and Wills have become synonymous with perseverance and bravery in the face of overwhelming odds. They live on in our nation's history – and their story remains immediate and compelling."



Peter Fitzsimmons is a bestselling non-fiction writer, and for the past 30 years has also been a journalist and columnist with the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Sun*

Herald. He is the author of a number of highly successful books, including *Kokoda*, *Ned Kelly* and *Gallipoli*, as well as biographies of such notable Australians as Sir Douglas Mawson, Nancy Wake and Nick Farr-Jones. His passion is to tell Australian stories, our own stories: of great men and women, of stirring events in our history. He lives in Sydney with his wife, Lisa Wilkinson and their three children.

Further details are available from Hachette Australia: <https://www.hachette.com.au/peter-fitzsimons/burke-and-wills>



The Royal Society OF VICTORIA

Promoting science since 1854

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: RSV COUNCIL ELECTION FOR 2018-2019

Nominations are hereby called for the election of the following positions for the 2018-19 Council:

Five Ordinary Councillors

Up to five Ordinary Members of Council for 2018 and 2019 will be elected by postal ballot closing at 3.30pm on **5th March 2018**. The elected Councillors will take up office from the Annual General Meeting to be held 26th April, 2018. All current 2017-18 Councillors will continue until that date.

Note: *the following Ordinary Councillors are not required to re-nominate as their two-year term continues through 2018:* Mr Viktor Perunicic, Ms Pamela Borger, Professor David Walker, Dr Tom Beer, Mr John Link.

The following Officers are not required to re-nominate as their two-year term continues through 2018: Mr David Zerman, President; Mrs Nicola Williams, Vice-President; Mr Andrew Davison, Treasurer; Associate Professor Peter Baines, Secretary (all elected 2017 – 2018). Dr William Birch will continue the ex-officio role of Immediate Past President.

Note: *Rule 22 (3) Council shall consist of no more than ten ordinary members of Council, five of whom shall be elected to take office in odd-numbered and five in even-numbered years, from whose number Council shall appoint persons to such Special Positions as shall be determined by Council from time to time to be necessary for the proper conduct of the Society's business.*

Note: *In 2018-2019 the Special Positions will be the Chairs of the following Council Committees: Membership & Mentoring; Publications, Records & Collections; Science Program; Science Outreach & Partnerships; Science Policy & Communication; Awards & Honours.*

Note: *The Returning Officer for the 2018-19 RSV Council Election will be Emeritus Professor James Warren.*

The Nomination Form is distributed as an insert with this newsletter. It must be received at the Society's Office, attention to the Returning Officer, along with the nominee's 200 word statement, by no later than **3.30 pm, Monday, 18th December 2017**.

Nomination criteria & guidelines:

1. Nominees for Officer or Councillor Positions must be Financial Members of the Royal Society of Victoria at the closing date of nominations and, in accepting nomination, undertake to maintain their RSV membership status throughout the election process and any subsequent tenure on the RSV Council.
2. Nominations may only be made and seconded by Members of the Society who are financial at the closing date of nominations.
3. A member may be nominated for only one Officer or Councillor position.
4. The nomination, including the consent of the candidate, must be accompanied by a statement of not more than 200 words in length prepared by the candidate or the nominator. Any statement exceeding 200 words will render the nomination invalid.
5. Each statement must be submitted on plain paper; company or business letterhead will not be accepted. **An electronic copy as a Word document must also be lodged with the Returning Officer via: rsv@sciencevictoria.org.au**
6. All nomination forms and statements must reach the Returning Officer, c/o The Royal Society of Victoria, 8 La Trobe Street, Melbourne 3000 **by 3.30 pm on 18th December 2017**, this being the closing time and date for nominations.
7. A candidate may withdraw from the election for any of the positions for which he or she has been nominated.
8. In the event of uncontested positions, the Returning Officer will declare the results for those positions immediately; and state that an election for these positions is not required. Results will be published on the Society website and in the Newsletter distributed at the end of January 2016.
9. If more than one nomination is received for any Officer, the Returning Officer must conduct an election for that position.
10. If there are more nominations than the number of vacant Ordinary positions of Council, the Returning Officer must conduct an election for all of the vacant positions.
11. A notice of the calling of an election and ballot papers will be circulated to financial members with the Newsletter in late January 2018. The Notice will be placed on the Society's website and on the notice board in the Society's premises displaying the nomination forms.
12. The notice of the election and Ballot Paper sent to members will be accompanied by the nominee's 200 word statement. These will be the only election materials authorised by the Society.



The
Royal Society
OF VICTORIA
Promoting science since 1854

NOMINATION FOR ELECTION TO RSV COUNCIL 2018-2019

We hereby nominate (name) _____

Of (address) _____

who is a financial member of the Society, for the position of (CIRCLE ONE):

Ordinary Councillor

I consent to the above nomination.

Signature of Candidate _____ Date _____

I submit with this nomination form a Statement not exceeding 200 words in length to be displayed on the Notice Board in the Society's premises and website and if a ballot is necessary, circulated to the members. This Statement is a mandatory part of the nomination requirement.

Nominated by:

Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Address _____

Seconded by:

Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Address _____

This nomination must reach the Returning Officer by **3.30 pm on Monday, 18th December 2017**, care of the Royal Society of Victoria, 8 La Trobe Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000. **Please check the nomination criteria and guidelines to ensure your submission complies with all requirements.**